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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Germany's great offensive against Russia, promised by Hitler, is now proceeding. About two million men are engaged, it is believed, in fighting the Battle for Moscow. The object is to cut off Marshal Budenny's army in the South and Marshal Timoshenko's army in the Central Sector and to open the way both to Moscow and to the Caucasus. Russia is stubbornly resisting and no rapid conclusion of the epic battles which are now proceeding can be anticipated.

In an order of the day, Hitler has promised his men that in a few weeks Russia's "three most important industrial areas will be completely in your hands." After repeating the extravagant estimate of Russian losses he described the common action as being "for the salvation of culturally the most valuable continent." The order concluded by saying: "With bated breath, the whole German nation will be with you in the difficult days ahead, for, with the help of God you are bestowing on us not only victory but are also making the most important preparations for peace."

A certain amount of public discussion is going on in America regarding the attitude of Russia towards religion. Important conferences took place between Mr. Myron Taylor and the Pope and between Mr. Harriman and the authorities in Moscow. Mr. Myron Taylor has proceeded to Washington taking with him a personal letter from the Pope to President Roosevelt. Meanwhile, M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, has made a statement that every Soviet citizen was at liberty to pursue his chosen faith. Religion, so far as Soviet Russia was concerned, was not the concern of the State. Citizens had a perfect right to belong to any church and to conduct anti-religious propaganda. Freedom of worship and freedom of anti-religious propaganda were recognized for all citizens.

I.C. White, a tanker, flying the Panama flag, was torpedoed and sunk on September 27. Thirty-four out of a crew of 37 have been picked up so far. Mr. Cordell Hull stated that the sinking of this ship was another act of lawlessness and piracy and attempted frightfulness in connexion with the general movement to drive Americans off the Atlantic Ocean, which was part of a world movement of conquest. The sinking of I.C. White has naturally brought into prominence the question of changing the Neutrality Act, a decision in regard to which has been taken by President Roosevelt.

The Australian Government, of which Mr. Fadden was the Prime Minister, has been defeated by 36 votes to 33. Mr. Curtin, the leader of the Labour Party, has formed a new Australian All-Labour Cabinet. Mr. Curtin has stated that he knew that the nation devoted itself with a singleness of purpose for the prosecution of the war and that the men standing between Australia and the enemy should be backed up by the nation's whole resources.

General Wavell has returned to India after important conferences in London, Middle East, Iraq and Iran.

A party of American journalists paid a remarkable tribute to the work of Indian troops in the Middle East. Indians, they said, were winning wars everywhere and wherever they went, they evoked the admiration of their comrades in arms. They won the battle of Siddi Barrani and the battle of Damascus.

They took East Africa and they stormed Keren. They were sharing the defence of the garrison of Tobruk with the Australians and British troops. At Damascus, it was pointed out, they fought for four days without respite with only a few casualties.

In an interview at La Guardia airport, Viscount Halifax, the British Ambassador in the United States, said that everyone in Britain wanted an invasion of the Continent, but the people had the sense to realize that it was not good until it could be done successfully. Speaking at a Press Conference after his arrival in Washington, Lord Halifax explained that at present both shipping and equipment were insufficient to make an invasion of the Continent easy. In his view, the steady bombardment of Germany was the best method of relieving the strain on the Russians and draining German fighter planes from the Russian front. It was very important that more and more bombers should be produced. One bomber delivered this year was worth two or three next year.

Production of planes in America has reached a high level. In September 1914 military aircraft were delivered as against 1854 in August. So far 12,651 planes have been delivered in the first nine months of the present year. It is anticipated that, by the end of the current year, America will be able to produce 2,500 military planes a month. Joint British and American production is now stated to be well over German production.

It is announced that British submarines have sunk or damaged 11 more enemy ships in the Mediterranean. Reports have also been received of the achievements of British planes in damaging ships in an Italian convoy in the Mediterranean.

Finland has sent a reply to the British note warning her against going beyond her previous frontiers. Finland has now declared that her role in the present war is defensive and that important areas of her 1939 frontiers are still in enemy territory. The note adds that an effective defence is possible for her only by pushing the defences to areas outside the frontiers from which Finland was attacked.

The Chinese have entered Ichang, an important treaty port on the Yangtze. They have also entered the outskirts of Chengchow.

JAPAN

There is undoubtedly a lull in the Pacific at present, but uneasiness in Indo-China, Thailand and other places still exists. Japan has not fulfilled the terms of her economic agreement with Indo-China and indications are very clear that Japan is attempting to establish a long-term occupation of that country. It would appear that the Japanese have monopolized practically all Indo-China's foreign trade. Military preparations near Saigon have been intensified and new aerodromes are being built around that city. Now and then violent comments appear in the Japanese press regarding Thailand and the Netherlands East Indies. Big troop movements are reported in Manchuria. This is probably due to the instigation of the Axis Powers who are anxious that Russia should be attacked by Japan at a moment when Germany is using all her resources to smash the Russian Army. In connexion with this matter, it is to be noted that Japan has told the Netherlands East Indies that she would consider it as an unfriendly act if the Netherlands East Indies continued to send war supplies to Russia, such as oil, rubber and coffee. There is no disposition in the Dutch East Indies to get alarmed by this impertinence, but the incident shows that Japan intends at a favourable opportunity to strike northwards.

Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, in an interview at Manila, stated the other day that Japan is perhaps feeling that it has been double-crossed by the Axis and placed in a ticklish position. Japan is now obviously afraid of Russia because of her remarkable resistance to the Germans and of her strength in the Far East. Further, if Vladivostok is attacked, Great Britain and America are not likely to remain passive. So far as the southward drive is concerned, Japan cannot be ignorant of the vast network of defences that are being built up in Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines. No power can now afford to look upon Singapore as a base which can be trifled with. Burmese defences have been greatly strengthened and the Empire forces, air, naval and military, are ready to meet any contingencies. Further, the A.B.C.D. is now an organized and powerfully defended group. The defences of the Philippines, according to competent military authorities, are stronger today than they were some time ago.

Sir Robert Brooke-Popham has had important conferences at Manila with American military authorities. The Commander-in-Chief in the Far East has denied the existence of any definite pact with America and the Netherlands East Indies, but there can be no doubt that the conferences which he has held bear a very important aspect which cannot possibly be comforting to any power which threatens the *status quo* in the Pacific. Moreover, Mr. Duff Cooper, who has come to the Far East to examine arrangements for consolidation and co-ordination among various British authorities, has completed the first stage of his task and has met British representatives in China, Thailand and Netherlands East Indies. He has visited Burma and is now in India to have important conferences with the Viceroy. He is expected to go to Australia.

Japan has therefore got reason to be worried. Her financial position is not quite strong, complicating her purchase of rubber and rice from Indo-China and Thailand, and making it difficult for her to get oil supplies. The United States of America, Great Britain and the Dutch East Indies have further agreed to stop

all shipments of oil to Japan. But there is no knowing when a flare-up will occur. "Be prepared" is the motto of the A.B.C.D. ring. As the Commander-in-Chief in the Far East stated recently: "You never can tell when the younger officers in Japan will slip off the rails." Mr. Duff Cooper thinks the position in the Far East has not deteriorated.

HITLER'S "WINTER HELP" SPEECH

There are certain features in the "Winter Help" speech which Hitler made on October 3 to which perhaps a reference may be made. The story that Russia intended to attack on a thinly-held German frontier was repeated by him and he reiterated his four charges against Russia, in regard to Finland, Bulgaria, Rumania and the Dardanelles, which Russia has denied. Hitler said that "a decision in the west with England which would have absorbed the whole of the *Luftwaffe* was no longer possible, for in my rear stood a State which was getting ready to proceed against me." That was the absurd reason, absolutely unfounded, for an attack against a country with which he concluded an agreement in 1939 "destined to last for ever." This 'apologetic' speech was obviously intended for the German people who had perhaps through their representatives been criticising the acts of the High Command. It should be noted that there is no mention of America in the speech, or of air raids. While he gave fantastic figures in regard to Russian losses Hitler said not a word about German losses which are known to have been very heavy. It is noteworthy, again, that he did not talk of "a decision in 1941" or even in 1942. The words which he used were: "when once the war will have been won." There is also the further fact that his anticipations in regard to the Moscow Conference have miserably failed. The German Radio told the world that a conference will not meet in Moscow. Another statement was made that if at all it met, it would dissolve owing to unbridgeable differences. These predictions have been proved to be absolutely false and Hitler should therefore naturally be gravely disturbed by the march of events, for a steady and ever-increasing flow of supplies from Great Britain and America to Russia would necessarily imply a formidable check to his forward march.

GERMANY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

What Mr. Churchill described as "the upsurge of the slave countries of Europe" is gaining momentum. For we hear every day in the occupied countries of acts of sabotage of industrial plant, rail derailments, breakdowns and passive resistance of the population. The failure of Germany to win the war against Britain, the stiff resistance of Russia and the growing strength of the Allies have naturally instilled in the peoples of the enslaved countries new hopes of freedom. Necessarily, therefore, the Quislings and tools of the Nazis are finding it increasingly difficult to reconcile these peoples to the rule of the Gestapo. In Czechoslovakia, for instance, the 'Protector', Von Neurath, has been replaced by 'Butcher' Reinhard Heydrich, whose reign of terror has already brought upon him the indignation of the whole world. Dr. Tuka in Slovakia nearly lost his life recently at the hands of assailants who were dissatisfied with his policy of collaboration with the Nazis. As is usual with the policy of the Nazis in disowning their friends, Dr. Tuka is now said to be in disgrace. General Neditch in Serbia and Anton Pavelitch in Croatia have had similar difficulties in dealing with their respective countries. Guerillas are giving infinite trouble and Pavelitch has apparently lost favour with the Nazis. Major Quisling in Norway was temporarily put out of action and Reich Commissar Terboven sought to re-establish effective control over the country by proclaiming Martial Law, executing trade union leaders, profesors, doctors and barristers and by securing reinforcements from Germany.

EXECUTIONS

Acts of terrorism by German agents in the occupied countries constitute the familiar method of dealing with the discontent of the population. It is no wonder that the British Government have made a statement in the House of Commons that the method of execution of hostages and other acts of reprisals committed by Germany are being taken note of, in order to punish the offenders when peace is re-established. A secret dossier of Nazi and and Fascist war criminals is to be compiled in Whitehall to deal with them in an appropriate manner after the war. In the week under review, information has reached London of numerous executions of Czechs in Brno for offences of high treason, and illicit and deliberate possession of arms. One of those executed was Doctor Otakar Klapka, former Lord Mayor of Prague, who refused to ask for mercy. In Poland, which has suffered most, executions are taking place daily. During the last three months 150 executions have taken place according to the German newspapers themselves. How many, other executions have taken place without being revealed, one does not know. According to an estimate one hundred thousand Poles have been executed besides those tortured in jails. On Sunday last four executions of Dutchmen were reported for sabotage, spying and attempts to blow up German-controlled railway lines. In German-occupied France hostages are being shot for the shooting of German soldiers by unknown persons. Need one wonder that the Czechoslovak Council of Ministers in London has asked the Czechoslovaks to swear over the graves of inhumanly executed Czechs to avenge their deaths? Some of the people who have been executed were in concentration camps and jails and could not have taken part in any act of sabotage. The proclamation issued by the

Czechoslovak Council of Ministers says very truly: "The German rulers have consummated the crime by the cynical murder of innocent hostages and it is the sacred duty of all decent peoples in the world not to forget this foul shame committed by Germany."

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

The cynicism underlying German policy and the callousness of the German rulers have again come into prominence by the attitude of the German Government in regard to the question of exchange of prisoners between England and Germany. This question has been under consideration for a considerable time and an agreement was entered into by dramatic exchanges of wireless messages between British and German Governments that the sick and wounded prisoners of war should be repatriated in hospital ships. The hospital ships which were to carry the sick and wounded from either side had been arranged to sail at 05·30 G.M.T. on Tuesday, October 7, and detailed instructions were exchanged. But all of a sudden the British Government have had to cancel the sailing of the "Mercy" ships owing to Germany's flagrant breach of faith in the matter. Germany wanted that repatriates should include sick and over-age civilian internees and the British Government expressed their readiness to mutual repatriation of civilian women and children and men not of military age. But the German Government stated that they were prepared only to agree to a 'limited exchange on a numerical basis.' This was contrary to the terms of the Geneva Convention signed by Germany in July 1939, according to which, the belligerents are to send back to their own country, without regard 'to rank or number,' war prisoners who are seriously ill or seriously wounded. Germany's claim that equal numbers of prisoners should be exchanged is quite contrary to the terms of this Convention. The German Government's intention to exchange about 103 Germans for a corresponding number of British prisoners was unacceptable to Great Britain, who had expected that the hospital ships would return to England "loaded to capacity" with British wounded. The disparity in the numbers is due to the fact that there are not many Germans wounded or ill in Great Britain, while the number of British in Germany and German occupied countries, ill or wounded, is very much more. That is no reason why Germany should seek to disregard the terms of the Convention which it had signed. And yet the Fuehrer has said that never had Germany repudiated any document which it had signed!

IRAN

German and German-controlled radio has been very busy ever since the commencement of the military action of the Allies in Iran, telling the world that the Allies had ulterior designs on Persia. The latest invention which has now been formally repudiated on behalf of the Allies, is that Russia was contemplating the annexation of a part of North-Western Iran. The new Iran Government has by now had first-hand experience of the real object of the Allies in regard to that country. The scrupulous care taken to avoid bloodshed, the liberal supply of food to Persia and the repeated declarations in regard to the territorial integrity and independence of the country, should disabuse the world of any impression sought to be created by the German radio about the real objects of the Allies. It is useful to refer again to points 1 and 2 of the Atlantic Charter declaring that Great Britain and the United States—and now Russia also—seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other, and desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned. This should have made it clear that neither England nor Russia has any territorial design in Persia. If certain strategic places are occupied, it is for the purpose of protecting the Allied interests and the Governments have declared their intention to respect Iran's territorial integrity. The object of spreading these rumours is, of course, to create suspicion in the minds of Iranians, who, however, realize full well that they cannot place any confidence in Germans who had robbed them of their food and raw materials and had, by their action in coming into their country in large numbers, rendered it necessary for the Allies to enter their territory for the protection of their interests.

TURKEY

The German-Turkish Trade Pact concluded by Dr. Clodius, which would be a reciprocal exchange agreement amounting to 60 million Turkish lire, has been signed. This agreement should be considered to be somewhat of a set back to German diplomacy. Turkey has, of course, learnt the secret of German policy in seeking to sujugate other countries by mingled threats and promises. Turkey has always expressed herself ready to take from any one delivery of goods, but Germany has not done so. As a matter of fact Great Britain delivered more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds worth of goods, while Germany was not able to fulfill her contract promptly, so that her liabilities for Turkish goods in recent months have gone up to 8 million pounds. Such violation of agreements had been quietly acquiesced in by smaller cuntries, but Turkey thinks she is strong and that she has strong friends. The German representative, Dr. Clodius, therefore could not threaten Turkey with invasion. Both Germany and Turkey have declared that no pressure had been brought to bear upon Turkey. Again Turkey is to export chrome to Germany only 50 per cent of the demand made. It should be remembered that an agreement between Great Britain and France on the one side and Turkey on the other, was entered into in January 1940, which stated that all exportable surplus of Turkish chrome should be exported mainly to Great Britain,

with a small percentage to France, for a period of three years. After the collapse of France, Germany took it upon herself to say that the chrome intended for France should be exported to Germany. Great Britain and America told the Turkish Government that such delivery of chrome to Germany would be incompatible with Turkish treaty obligations and also with Turkey's friendly attitude to the Democracies. It may be stated in this connexion that Germany gets quite a large quantity of chrome from Yugoslavia and Greece. Therefore, Germany's object in demanding chrome from Turkey is more political than economic and calculated to disturb the friendly relations between Great Britain and Turkey. But Turkey has stood firm and German diplomacy has failed. Turkish chrome is being shipped direct to the United States of America for British war purposes, and Great Britain and America, therefore, attach great weight to this issue.

It is well to remember that Turkey has firmly maintained her neutrality and commercial integrity and further demonstrated that she is not afraid of Germany. Another comforting fact is that British goods continue to get into Turkey at the rate of £500,000 worth a month. Deliveries are being speeded up. Other pointers in regard to the friendly relations between Turkey and Great Britain are, that a large contract has been signed for the improvement of harbour facilities at Alexandretta and Mersin with the British and that Turkey has shown herself interested in the conference in Palestine, which has just successfully concluded, of representatives of the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation, to discuss the co-ordination of supplies to Turkey and transport problems.

AMERICAN DEVELOPMENTS

Two far-reaching and important developments in American policy have to be recorded. The first is that the House of Representatives is now considering the new Lease and Lend Grant of 5,985 million dollars. It is predicted that this grant will be quickly acquiesced in the form recommended, that is, that nothing should be inserted in the Bill to prevent the use of the funds to help Russia. The second step is that Administration Leaders in the Representative Assembly and the Senate have introduced measures in the respective Houses to implement the President's message in regard to the arming of American merchantmen. The following is the text of Roosevelt's message :—

"The Neutrality Act seemed reasonable once but so did the Maginot Line. Now the war has spread from continent to continent with nations enslaved, cities in ruins and millions dead. Never has such devastation been visited upon God's earth and God's children. Hitler's pattern for shaping the world is now ominously clear. Increasingly we have become aware of the peril to ourselves.

We have taken important and costly steps to give aid, but we must defend ourselves wherever defence becomes necessary and in this the Government should not be hampered. The Neutrality Act requires complete reorganization. The revisions I suggest do not call for war any more than the Lend and Lease Act did, nor will they leave us any less neutral.

The Neutrality Act has established zones of combat prohibited to American ships, but Hitler considers the world and all the seven seas his battlefield. I recommend repeal of Section 6 of the Act which prohibits the arming of American merchantships. Historically, internationally and legally, the arming of United States merchantmen is justifiable.

We are faced with modern pirates, who sink defenceless ships without warning. The arming of our ships is a matter of extreme necessity and urgency.

Other phases of the Act needing correction are :—It is time we stopped giving definite assistance to aggressors by keeping our ships out of friendly ports and thus inviting Hitler to the control of the seas. Delivery of goods under the American flag is becoming increasingly necessary instead of depending on Norway and Holland to do it for us.

I am only asking for Congressional action to implement Congressional policy to make possible to do what the Lease and Lend Act intends—deliver goods to those who can use them effectively. The military situation is serious. Hitler is expending all to crush Russia and Britain. He knows he is racing against time. He fears American aid. We must act swiftly, for the ultimate fate of the Western Hemisphere lies in the balance.

Hitler has offered the Americans a challenge which we will not and cannot tolerate; the American flag is not going to be driven from the seas either by his submarines, his aeroplanes or his threats. We cannot permit the affirmative defence of our rights to be annulled and diluted by sections of the Neutrality Act which have no realism in the light of the unscrupulous ambition of mad men. This cannot be: we, Americans, have determined our course. We intend to maintain the security and integrity and honour of our country. We intend to maintain a policy of protecting the freedom of the seas against domination by any foreign power which has been crazed with the desire to control the world. We shall do so with all our strength, all our heart, all our mind."

The decision to amend the Neutrality Law only in regard to arming of merchantmen is considered to be inadequate by Government leaders who hope that the Congress will eventually agree to raise the ban against American ships travelling to belligerent ports or combat zones.

SOVIETS WILL BAULK HITLER

GIANT INDUSTRIES IN THE URALS

A massive German attack on a vast front of about 1,200 miles from Leningrad to the Crimea is reported to be in full swing. This is probably the major offensive that Hitler hinted in his speech this week. The principal effort seems to be in the Central Sector where attacks are developing in the direction of Moscow from both north and south. The Germans are thrusting from the north towards the rear of the Russian armies which have been keeping the Germans on the defensive around Smolensk. An attempt is being made to break through the Valdai Hills between Leningrad and Smolensk. The southern thrust is from the direction of a town south of Smolensk. Neutrals speak of the Germans' aim as nothing short of the encirclement of Moscow and that the comparative lull in the Central Sector was to enable the Germans to gather their resources for the decisive struggle of which Hitler spoke. Hitler, in a special Order of the Day to his troops, makes tall claims and says that the Russian armies in this sector have been encircled and are facing annihilation; but the Russians are resisting fiercely and their morale is as good as ever. In any case, the Germans are stated to aim at reaching the line of the Volga before taking up winter quarters. Hitler is anxious if he cannot capture Leningrad or Moscow, at least to stabilize operations in the North and the Centre and release troops to maintain the momentum of his drive to the rich regions of the South.

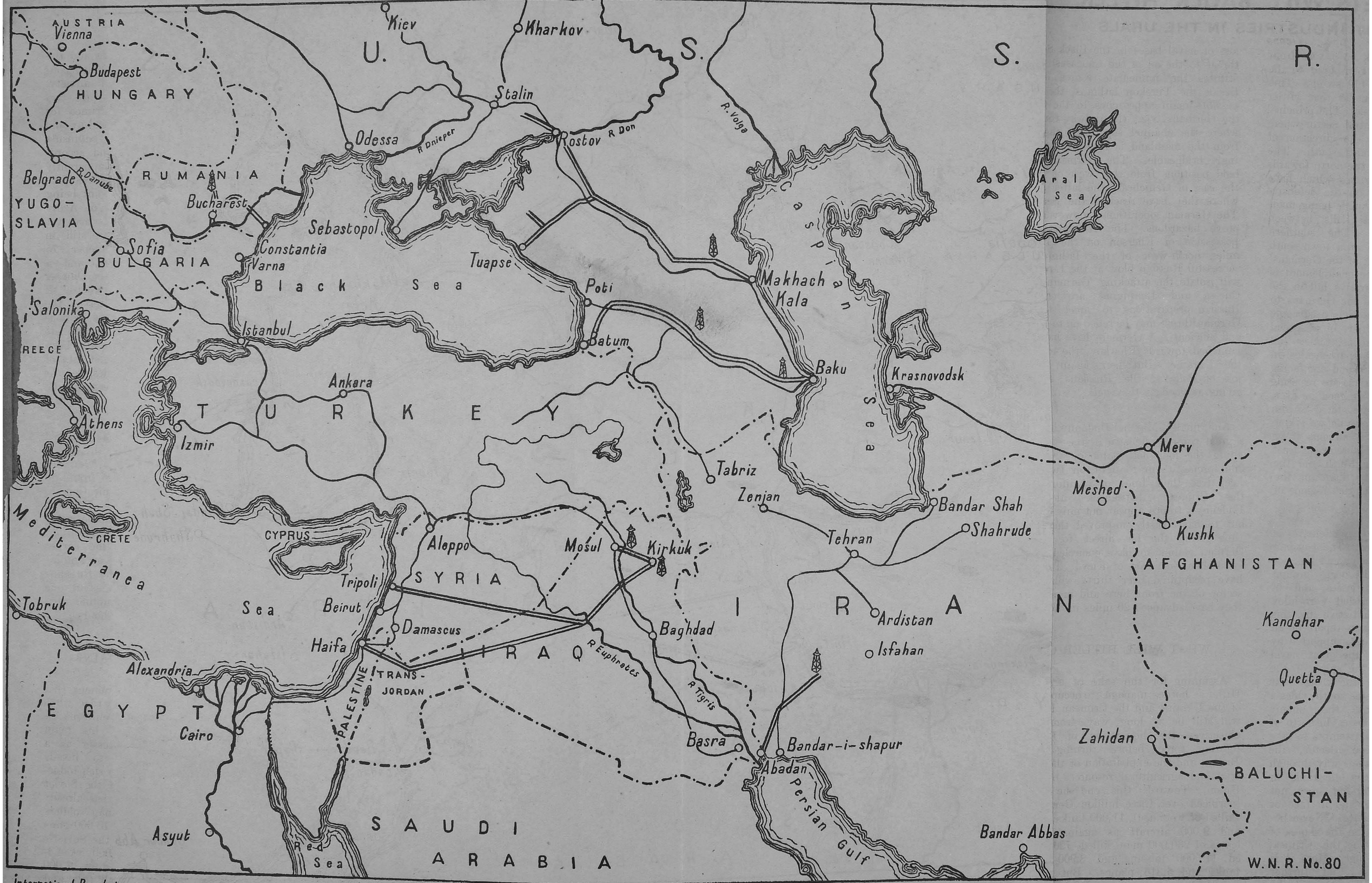
But everywhere the German offensive is being very stubbornly resisted. The German drive in the north against Leningrad has not made progress, thanks to the boggy ground and the appalling German losses, and in fact, the Russians under Marshal Voroshilov seem to retain all their initiative in this area, judging from the German report of an attempt by strong Soviet forces, supported by the fire of the batteries at the great naval base of Kronstadt and by the ships of the Russian Navy, to land on the coast west of Leningrad. In the extreme south, Odessa holds out strongly against the enemy and the Rumanians admit losses hitherto of 96,000 (killed or wounded) in attempts to take the city. In the Crimean Sector, the Germans are trying to force their way through the Perekop Isthmus by mass air raids on positions in the Russian rear but have not made any great progress on land in face of the stubborn Russian resistance. Nevertheless, with the German forces on the shores of the Sea of Azov and investing the Crimea, the situation is undoubtedly ugly. Here it is the potential industrial loss that further Russian retreat will entail (apart from the loss of naval bases in the Black Sea and the threat to the oil of the Caucasus) which constitutes the immediate source of anxiety. Beside the Perekop Isthmus, there are two possible main approaches to the Crimea for the Germans, viz., the railway causeway and where the channel separating the peninsula from the mainland is narrowest and accordingly bridgeable. The Germans apparently hold positions from the west of Perekop to the east of Genichesk, the latter point being where they have reached the Sea of Azov. The German operations, however, may yet prove hazardous. The Russians are still in possession of Kherson on the Dnieper, 75 miles north-west of the Isthmus, and a successful Russian blow at the Lower Dnieper will isolate the attacking German troops. If Odessa and Leningrad are criteria, the Russian preparations to meet this serious German threat may be relied on to be complete and efficient. A German drive has also been launched towards Kharkov, the chief city of the Ukraine. But here again, despite the loss of Poltava, the Russians seem to be giving as good as they get.

And, finally, Marshal Budenny has launched a great counter-offensive in the south, threatening the long left flank of the Germans and forcing them to fight on two fronts to keep free their lines of communication to the Crimean bottleneck at Perekop. Budenny's troops appear not only to be intact but to have vastly improved their position, thus giving the lie direct to the earlier German claims to have encircled or annihilated them just east of Kiev! The Russians have recaptured over thirty villages in one sector of the front here and in another area they have advanced 20 miles in 36 hours.

WHAT WILL HITLER GAIN?

Assuming for the sake of argument that Hitler's hordes manage to occupy the whole of the Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula, he will still be a long way from his main objectives—the liquidation of Russia as a fighting force before turning to invade Britain and the exploitation of the rich industrial and agricultural resources of the Soviet Union. Towards this end he has already sacrificed over three million German soldiers (killed or wounded), 11,000 tanks, 13,000 guns and 9,000 aircraft as against the Soviet's losses of 230,000 men killed, 720,000 wounded, 178,000 missing and 8,900 guns, 7,000 tanks and 5,316 planes. But all this and more will not avail him. Professor Turin, in

SOUTH-EASTERN WAR THEATRE



International Boundaries
Railways

Scale in miles
0 200 400 600

Oil pipe lines..
Oil wells..

the course of a reasoned survey of Soviet Russia's industrial power in the *Manchester Guardian*, writes :—

"The Ukraine, the Caucasus, their wealth of coal, oil, and wheat are on the lips of all who think that Hitler can get them as easily as he got the material resources of the European countries occupied by him. But are the treasures of Russia concentrated in these regions only? What is actually the potential industrial power of Soviet Russia? If we consider the location of the most important industrial centres of present-day Russia, we come to the conclusion that the Ukraine and the Caucasus, rich as they are, are not the territories upon which Russia is entirely dependent either in peace or in war. During the Civil War (1918-20) the whole of the Ukraine and the Caucasus were in the hands of the White Armies, yet even at that time the Soviet Government was able to supply the Red Army with all necessaries from the Moscow industrial region and the Urals."

The Bulletin of International News, issued by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, points out that the old industrialized areas (in Russia) were Leningrad and the neighbourhood, with engineering and metal works, textile factories, shipbuilding, etc. Moscow and the surrounding districts, containing the principal centres of the textile industry and many of the lighter engineering industries; the Ukrainian Republic, the Dnieper and the Donetz basins, rich in coal, iron, and water power and big centre of heavy industry; and the older centres at Gorki (Nizhni Novgorod) and other towns on the Volga. But the rearmament of Germany and the general deterioration of the political situation in Europe and the Far East had nearly a decade ago brought home to the leaders of the Soviet Union the inherent danger of the concentration of production and industry in the vulnerable areas of Western European Russia, and the danger at the other extreme, in the Far East, of the absence of supplies of all kinds required for an army in the field, with the consequent necessity of haulage over the only railway line, the Trans-Siberian, 5,000 miles from Moscow to Vladivostok. They concentrated, therefore, on creating centres of heavy industry further east, out of reach of bombers and of military action, particularly from Western Europe where Germany was developing formidable air power. The leaders of Russia wisely set up the new industrial centres where the necessary resources of production could most easily be concentrated in the neighbourhood.

RUSSIA'S INDUSTRIAL RESERVES.

The recently developed industrial areas are in the region between the Volga river and the Ural mountains, the southern part of which is sometimes called, because of the new oil-fields in course of exploitation there, the "Second Baku;" the Kuznetz area (the Kuzbass) in West Siberia, around Novo-Sibirsk on the Trans-Siberian Railway; a not inconsiderable development in Central Asia; and the beginnings of industrial organisation in the Russian Far East. As the *Bulletin* emphasises, "these developments and the huge transfers of population involved mean a shift eastward of the pivot of Russian power, a process as great in its way and likely to produce as important results as the colonization of Siberia in the latter half of the 19th Century."

To the question, therefore, whether, if the Russians lose the East Ukraine and the Donetz basin, their industrial capacity will be so crippled that they will be in danger of being overwhelmed before British and American supplies can reach them in sufficient quantities to fill the gap, the following statistics may help to supply the answer. If the Soviet armies continue to hold Leningrad and Moscow but are obliged to fall back to the line of the Don, the Soviet Union's supply of petrol, chrome, copper, lead and zinc will still remain unaffected, and she will still possess from 35 to 65 per cent of her resources in manganese, steel, iron and chemicals. If the withrawal is continued to the line of the Volga, these percentages would be only slightly decreased except in the case of petrol which would drop to 85 per cent and aluminium to 8 per cent. The Soviet Union has been informed, however, that Britain and the United States have already taken urgent measures to recoup Russian industry for this crippling loss of aluminium and thus ensure that Russian manufacture of aircraft is kept going. The great triumph of industrial effort in Ruussia in the recent past has certainly been the exploitation of the rich territory of the Urals, which has become one of the main metallurgical and armament centres of the Soviet Union based to a large extent on local raw materials, which amount to about 25 per cent of the total mineral resources of the Union. Here has been raised the country's largest steel plant, its largest chemical factory, its largest machine-building works, its largest copper-smelter, and its largest heavy tractor plant. The Novotagil plant is expected to increase the output of Ural metal by 150 per cent and though coal is deficient in this area, the shortage has been made good by the use of electric furnaces. It must not be forgotten, that the long line of plants which stretches from Magnitogorsk in the south to Berezniki in the north lies from 1,500 to 2,000 miles away from the Soviet western frontiers and still further away from its eastern frontiers.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN HELP

In general, it can be said that while the development of the Ural region has been spectacular, the area is, so far as we know, still dependent on the older industrial districts of Leningrad, Moscow and the Ukraine for various types of special steel and machinery and for many kinds of machine tools. This region is a great reserve arsenal which can keep the Soviet armies going, provided Britain and the United States meet the present emergency by pouring in through Iran large supplies of tanks and aircraft and then lend powerful aid by supplying industrial equipment such as machine-tools. Swift action is necessary, and drastic stepping up of British and American war production. Both Governments are alive to the fact that ultimate victory depends on those conditions being fulfilled and the Moscow Three-Power Conference has worked on that basis. The Russian armies are hard-pressed but their morale is not broken and their cohesion has not been lost, while the Germans are being made to pay a heavy price for devastated territory. In fact, the Russian strategy of attrition is working out substantially according to plan. If the British Empire and the United States fill in the gaps in their supply system, as they must and will, the ultimate issue can hardly be in doubt. As the Moscow Radio said in a broadcast to listeners in Germany and Austria on September 14, the anniversary of Napoleon's entry into Moscow: "Napoleon had no tanks and no motorised division; he knew nothing of *blitzkrieg*—but on foot he progressed more swiftly than Hitler with all his motors." And to Hitler himself, Moscow addressed the following message: "At the Kremlin, Napolean read the writing on the wall which foretold his downfall but you, megalomaniac and braggart, will never see the Kremlin; you will not spend your last winter before your downfall in Moscow. Your army will freeze and be ruined somewhere on the route between Smolensk and Minsk."

INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

MORE TRIBUTES TO INDIAN SOLDIERS

His Excellency the Viceroy, in opening the proceedings of the National Defence Council, made a handsome reference to the superb contribution of India towards the prosecution of the war in men, money and material. His Excellency said :—

"There could be no more appropriate occasion than this to refer to the superb contribution so far made by India to the achievement of the ideals for which we are fighting. She has, without stint, poured out men, money and supplies. Her fighting men, whether by land, by sea, or in the air, have covered themselves, and the land of their birth, with glory. In the face of every device of modern warfare, in conditions often most difficult, in unfamiliar surroundings, India's fighting men, whether they came from the Indian States or from the provinces of British India, have shown outstanding valour and endurance, and have added still further honour to the martial traditions of this country. The Empire and India owe them a debt of gratitude, a debt that will never be forgotten.

"In paying the tribute that I have to the gallant fighting men of India, I would associate with it a word of gratitude for the immense assistance given us by our neighbour, the warrior kingdom of Nepal, to the sympathetic and enthusiastic support and co-operation of whose Prime Minister we owe so much, and whose troops have played their part with the distinction which we have come to expect of them in the various theatres of war in which they have been engaged.

"In the field of supply, India has again made a contribution of immense significance and value, a contribution recognized throughout the Empire, a contribution that has in no small degree helped to bring home to many distant lands not only the great natural resources of India, but the high intelligence and skill of her craftsmen and her workers and the readiness of all to play their part in times like these. My Supply Member will be able to give you some idea of what has been done in this field. Let me say now only that the location in India of the Eastern Group Supply Council is, in itself, a tribute both to the importance of her strategic and geographical position and to the magnitude of the assistance which she has given, can give and will continue to give to the common effort.

"The generous stream of contributions in gifts and loans, in money and in kind, for the purchase of munitions and equipment, of planes, of tanks, of ambulances and the like for the alleviation of suffering and the relief of distress, which has flowed from India since the war began, is undiminished to-day. I pay my deep and sincere tribute to the magnificent generosity of the gifts that have been made by Your Highnesses of the Princely Order, by the provinces of British India, and by that great multitude of individuals throughout the country whose desire is to hasten, by their personal sacrifices, the day of victory of our cause."

MR. CHURCHILL'S MESSAGE

The first meeting of the National Defence Council was held at Simla on October 6. At the meeting, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, General Wavell, read the following message from Mr. Churchill :

"I was deeply interested by all you reported to me about India's war effort. In the first year of the war, it was impossible to find the weapons and equipment necessary for the Indian army. In the second year something was done. In the third year, large supplies of the most deadly modern war apparatus will come in a steady flow to expanding formations of the Indian Army. The sons of India have already in this war shown themselves worthy of the highest respect and honour among military men. Wherever they have fought—in Cyrenaica, in the Sudan, in Eritrea, Abyssinia, Syria and now latest of all in Persia—the Indian divisions have played an important and distinguished part. During 1942 the armies of India, with their British comrades, will be fighting on the long front from the Caspian to the Nile. By so doing, they will be barring the eastward progress of the war and guarding the plains of Hindustan and the homes of their dear ones. This is a highly honourable task and also, as anyone can see, the best strategy. This is equally true whether applied to the interests of India herself or to the fortunes of the world cause now being fought out."

GERMANY AND RUSSIA

HITLER'S LATEST

Herr Hitler made a speech on Friday, October 3, in connexion with the "Winter Help" scheme which has been characterized as "apolegetic." It is also stated that he felt compelled to answer various complaints that have been made in Nazi Germany in regard to the policy of the Fuehrer, indicating growing discontent in the country. In this speech he dealt, for the most part, with the Russian campaign, but before he referred to Russia, he indulged in the usual attacks upon so-called war-mongers. He said:—"It was a historical truth that Germany has for two years been overthrowing one enemy after another. I did not want it. After the first conflict, I held out my hand, but each of my peace offers has been rejected by that war-monger, Churchill. I came to the conclusion that the decision had to be fought out—a decision of importance for a hundred years of world history."

Then followed the catalogue of complaints against Russia, which is fairly well known. Speaking about the decision to attack Russia, he said: "It was the most difficult decision of my whole life. The greatest struggle in the history of the world began and from then to now, everything has gone according to plan. We have not made a wrong calculation in any of our plans or in the bravery of the German soldier."

About Russian losses in the war, he said that Russian prisoners now amounted to two and a half millions and he further stated that Germany had destroyed 20,000 guns, 18,000 tanks and 14,500 planes. These figures have been ridiculed in Moscow. According to Moscow, Germany has lost over 3 million men killed or wounded so far while the Soviet losses were 230,000 killed, 720,000 wounded and 178,000 missing; Germans had lost 11,000 tanks according to Russia while Russia has lost 7,000; Germany has lost 13,000 guns while Russia has lost 8,900; and Germany has lost 9,000 planes while Russia has lost 5,316.

MR. W. J. BROWN ON LESSONS FROM RUSSIA

In an article in *the Listener*, dated 10th July 1941 on Germany's action against Russia, Mr. W. J. Brown traces the history of the relations between the two countries and says that two lessons can be learnt.

The lesson for the British people, he writes, Right, Left and Centre, is the lesson of the bottomless, the limitless, the unrestrained and unrestrainable perfidy and treachery which is the most distinctive feature of Hitler's character. Let us look back over the years and see how this characteristic of Hitler's is illustrated by his dealings with Russia.

In his book *Mein Kampf* (1933 edition) Hitler wrote of Russia thus:

> "We must not forget that the rulers of Russia today are blood-stained common criminals: that we have to do with the scum of humanity. Russia today sees in Germany, not an ally, but a state destined to a like fate. One concludes no treaty with a partner whose sole interest is the destruction of the other. It is madness to ally ourselves with a power which has the deadly foe of our future (Communism) for its master."

PUBLIC LANGUAGE AND PRIVATE

You will see that Hitler is utterly positive that there could be no alliance between Germany and Russia. But later he becomes still more positive. At the Nuremburg Party Conference in 1936, Hitler announced:

> "We cannot negotiate. . . In Bolshevist Russia there is devastation, grim murder and ruin. Here is laughter, happiness and beauty."

Now apart from the humour of describing Nazi Germany (founded on fraud and maintained by force, the concentration camp and murder) as a state of laughter, happiness and beauty, the important thing to note here is that Hitler is saying not merely that there cannot be an alliance between Germany and Russia, but that there cannot even be negotiations with Russia. The two states not only cannot be friends; they cannot even be on speaking terms. But while Hitler is speaking like this in public, he is holding quite a different language in private. Dr. Rauschnigg records in his book *Hitler Speaks* that as early as 1934, in private conversations, Hitler was telling his friends that he would not only talk to Russia, but make an agreement with Russia if it suited his purpose so to do. He said:

> "I shall keep that as a trump card . . . We alone can conquer the great Continental space. . . The struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. . . That does not mean that I shall refuse to walk part of the road together with the Russians, if that will help us. . ."

The next chapter comes with the signing of the Non-Aggression Pact in 1939. In order to be able to fling the whole weight of his power first on Poland and then on to the west, Hitler goes back on every word about Russia that he has ever uttered in public. Notice how he does it. He not only recants the words. He swallows them with infinite gusto.

In his Reichstag speech on September 1, 1939, he said :

> " I should like to declare that this political decision (the Non-Agression Pact with Russia) means a tremendous departure for the future, and that it is final. Russia and Germany fought against one another in the World War. That shall and will not happen again."

He went on to declare : " The resolve of Germany is unalterable. . namely, to introduce on the east of the Reich peaceful, stable, and thus bearable conditions. In this respect German interests and wishes coincide entirely with those of Russia."

And then, in February 1940, he rose to his final height in saying :

> " I sincerely believe (note the ' sincerely ' !) that the Russian and German regimes have succeeded in achieving something which is really beneficial to both the people ; and they are far too good to bleed themselves to death for the sake of the stockbrokers and Jews in London."

ALL SYSTEMS TO ALL MEN

Hitler thus, in the interval of a few years, passed from a position in which there could not only be no alliance with the ' bloodthirsty scum ' of Moscow, but not even any talking with them, to a position in which he affirms that he ' sincerely believes ' that there is something so good about the Bolshevist regime that not only can he talk to the Bolshevists, but he can do a deal with them which is to involve peace for ever as between Germany and Russia (which peace only the stockbrokers and Jews in London would think of trying to disturb). From being the defender of Capitalist Europe against Bolshevism, he had, at this stage, become the friend of Bolshevism against the Capitalists of Britain.

That lasted for as long as was necessary to beat down Poland, Holland, Belgium and France. These things accomplished, the Non-Aggression Pact with Russia had served its purpose. More, it was an obstacle to further progress. For now the only surviving foe of Germany in Western Europe is Britain, which he knows he must destroy if the slave-peace that he has enforced on the Continent of Europe is to endure. He cannot risk the assault on Britain while the Russian Army and Air Force remain in being, for Hitler, who has double-crossed so many people, so many countries, stands in permanent fear of being double-crossed himself. Hitler, who has stabbed so many people and countries in the back, fears always that the knife may one day pierce his own ribs. So he himself does the double-crossing first. Without the shadow of an excuse, without even the formality of presenting demands and having them rejected, without even a declaration of war, Hitler tears up the Non-Aggression Pact and invades Russia.

Now, what is the lesson to be learnt from all this by the British people—Right, Left and Centre? It is that what is at stake in this war is not the merits of one system of society against another—Liberal-Capitalism, Communism or Fascism. Hitler is perfectly prepared to support all these successively, or even simultaneously, if need be. He will be all systems to all men if thereby he can damn some. What is at stake is whether the world is to live, under the domination of a man and a country to whom words have ceased to mean anything whatever except as instruments of deception, to achieve more and more power. There is a case for ' Liberal-Capitalism,' there is a case for almost any form of social organization you can mention. That is not the point. The point is that the cement disappears from every form of society, the cement disappears from every form of international relationship unless they are based upon truth. Personal relations, social relations, international relations cannot endure unless what men say corresponds with what they mean, or at least bears some relation to it.

If there is to be any sort of social order in the world, if there is to be any kind of civilization, any kind of stable international relations whatever, we must kill this philosophy of lies and deception which Nazism has made into a permanent instrument of policy. That is why I have insisted so often that basically this war is not a political war, not even an economic war, but primarily a religious war. That is the lesson for us all.

There is a second lesson to be learnt by all those in belligerent or neutral countries—particularly by the men of Vichy, who still hanker after a compromise with Hitler. It is that Hitler does not mean to compromise with anyone. He is out for domination by force of arms.

Russia made every effort to carry out the agreement she made with Germany in 1939. She based her foreign policy on it, she supplied the German war machine, she refused to reinsure by improving her relations with us. Up to the eleventh hour when the German army was massing on her borders, she stood pat on the letter and spirit of her agreement. Yet this did not save her from a treacherous attack preceded by no demands or declarations of war. Admiral Darlan and others who seek to make pacts with Germany will find that when they have served his purpose, Hitler will strike them down. It does not matter whether the victim be a Tory, a Liberal, a Socialist or a Communist. He will, sooner or later, if he does not stand firm from the outset, fall to Hitler's lust for power and lying—treachery.

(Continued on page 14)

MUSSOLINI IS MISERABLE

Never was Mussolini's glum scowl more in keeping with his mood than now. His Imperialistic adventure swelled the Italian budget deficit in six years (1935—41) from two to 28 milliards of lire. In 1940 he had something to show for it—an East African Empire almost as big as India. In 1941 Eritrea, Somaliland and Abyssinia were taken from him. Now he fears Libya may follow suit. According to some reports, he has asked Hitler for increased German aid in the Western Desert and Hitler's answer has been to ask him to send half a million Italian soldiers to supply a more urgent need on the Eastern Front.

The winter campaigning season in North Africa is at hand, yet General Rommel has been unable to launch a full-scale invasion of Egypt. The reason is not hard to find. Day and night, British submarines, Fleet Air Arm planes and Royal Air Force bombers and fighters tear Rommel's supply line to shreds. In a single attack recently, British submarines destroyed two-thirds of an Italian convoy, probably carrying two complete infantry divisions to Tripoli. In a recent period of two weeks, submarines sank 100,000 tons of enemy shipping carrying supplies and reinforcements to Rommel's German African Corps and its band of ragged Italian retainers.

Linked with these ceaseless and successful British raids that have made Mussolini's Bridge of Ships a Bridge of Sighs are the carefully planned aerial sorties against munitions factories and embarkation ports in Italy and Sicily, the Italy-Sicily train ferry service, Italian coastal reconnaissance seaplane bases and aerodromes from which Italian convoys might be expected to receive fighter support. Well may Mussolini regret the decision he took sixteen short months ago.

HITLER'S NOT-SO DOCILE "CHAIN GANG"

Addressing members of all the Allied Governments on June 12, 1941, Churchill said, "In every country into which the German armies and Nazi police have broken there has sprung up from the soil a hatred of the German name and a contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory." Evidence of that hatred and that contempt mounts daily.

The undaunted spirit of the CZECHS has broken the health of their "Protector," Baron von Neurath. Reinhard Heydrich, Nazi "Killer No. 1," has been sent to deputise for him. Heydrich's first acts have been to declare a state of emergency in six districts of Bohemia and Moravia, to execute two Czech generals and to order the arrest of the "Protectorate" Premier on a charge of high treason.

In two months YUGOSLAV guerillas have destroyed 200 bridges, blown up 400 ammunition and provision dumps, derailed 17 trains and killed 2,000 of their jailers. The appointment of a Quisling Premier (Neditch) has done nothing to curtail the sabotage activities of Serb patriots. Anton Pavelich, the Croat Quisling, has failed to reconcile the people to his regime and the Nazis are pressing Vlatko Matchek, the Peasant leader, to form a new Croat Government. The Archbishop of LUXEMBOURG has been arrested for refusing to support a policy of collaboration with the Nazis. Hostages have been shot in POLAND, FRANCE and BELGIUM as a reprisal against the shooting of Nazi officers and N.C.Os. Five DUTCHMEN have been executed for listening to the B.B.C. Oslo jails are packed with NORWEGIAN patriots. DANES have been caught adulterating bully-beef (destined for Hitler's front-line troops) with metal shavings. Those are just a few of the headaches that the "V" Army is preparing for Hitler.

NOTES ON CLIMATE

Murmansk. Rain from end of August to end of September. Snow from beginning of October to middle of May, during which period temperature fluctuates between 15 and 40 degrees below zero (Centigrade).

Leningrad. Heavy rain throughout October. Snow from beginning of November. Day temperature not more than 17°C.

Moscow. Rain during October. Snow from beginning of November. Temperature drops as low as minus 35°C. These conditions also apply to the region between Moscow and Kharkov.

Rostov-on-Don. Real winter does not begin until January and continues for about three months. Main roads are passable for mechanical transport.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 22–29, 1941

HITLER SEES RED

" Allied aid to Russia will prove a geographical impossibility." (*German news in English, Sept. 23.*)

" The Bolsheviks have lost quantities of aircraft, guns and tanks which no possible efforts on the part of Britain or U.S.A. can replace." (*German talk in English, Sept. 22.*)

One-third of Russian demands (and who can imagine they were light?) have already been met by Great Britain; more is on the way. America has given Russia a credit of 100,000,000 dollars. Two American tankers have reached Russia, nine others are on the way. Two hundred American fighter aircraft intended for Britain have with her consent been diverted to Russia. The Royal Air Force Wing in Russia has already distinguished itself, and the Three-Power Conference has planned more aid for Russia.

" British and Soviet acrobatics cannot deduce the actual German losses (84,354 dead. 402,000 total casualties) in the greatest crusade in Europe." (*German news in Hindustani. Sept. 22.*)

On a front 1,500 miles long for a period of roughly 90 days the German estimate works out to about *one German per mile per day.* As for the figures they give regarding the Russian losses 9,900,000, they modestly imply that the whole Russian army has been wiped out, and apparently has been replaced.

GERMAN GRIEF AND GREED

" The world has been plunged into grief at the Anglo-Saxon highhandedness in Iran." (*German news in Hindustani, Sept. 24.*)

The people of Iran gave a spontaneous welcome to the Allied army and co-operated with them. The Iranian Army, a creation of the late Shah, displayed little inclination to resist. Here is what an important Arabic paper *Saut al Haq* says in a leader: " The greed of the dictators has led them to direct offensive operations against the whole world. . . what has occurred in Iran is approved by all democracies and is only to the advantage of Iran; the Iranians will realize their hopes.

" Reports from Alexandria indicate that as a result of over-production cotton is hoarded in the streets. . . .they have become cotton dumps. Britain has not fulfilled her promise to buy the Egyptian cotton." (*German news in Arabic and Persian, Sept. 25.*)

Lord Moyne said in Parliament recently that up to June 1941, the British Cotton British Government has undertaken to purcotton seed up to £25,000,000. In 1941 the British Government has undertaken to purchase half of the crop.

Further, whatever profit is likely to accrue to Britain in any subsequent transaction, half of it will be returned to the growers. The disinterestedness of Britain in this matter is obvious if it is remembered that England can have all the cotton she requires from America under the Lease-Lend Act.

AXIS REACTIONS

INDIFFERENCE

" The President is already helping Britain to his utmost, and it will make very little difference to the course of the war if the U.S.A. actually came to shooting or not."

(English broadcast from Rome, Sept. 12.)

" The Germans are behaving like Christians by turning the other cheek to Roosevelt."

(German broadcast to U.S.A., Sept. 14.)

" The so-called aid to Britain is the best way of strangling her. . . . . .Roosevelt gives her apparent aid so that he will strangle her slowly. . . . . . .he does not loose his booty."

(German broadcast to S. America, Sept. 13.)

INDIGNATION

" What the Axis powers could not foresee and therefore properly weigh up was the frenzy which at a certain point took possession of the most powerful man in the U.S.A. and induced him to make even vaster decisions."

(Signor Ansaldo in a broadcast on Sept. 12.)

" American businessmen are deliberately prolonging the war to capture British Overseas markets."

(German broadcast in English, Sept. 16.)

" Roosevelt's speech is the final proof that he has been aggressive for years."

(German broadcast in German, Sept. 14.)

" The speech is the most barefaced trick yet played on an unsuspecting people."

(German broadcast to U.S.A., Sept. 13.)

" President Roosevelt is ready to set a spark to the powder barrel."

(German radio quoting Aftonbladet correspondent, July 1941.

What they tell America

" Germany desires peace and friendship with America."

Hitler, Reichstag speech, 30th January 1939.

" Germany and Italy have no interest whatever in crossing swords with the U.S.A."

Italian broadcast to America, Sept. 20.

What they tell others

" The U.S.A. are out for domination."

Zeesen broadcast to Brazil, March 3, 1941.

" All this means that the anti-Europe policy now in the course of development. . . .was and is national and as such must be fought to the end as Europe's war of independence from America."

Rome radio to Italians, Sept. 20.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA —*(Continued from page* 11)

IN THE INTERESTS OF TRUTH, JUSTICE AND MERCY

The British people have learnt their lesson. And so I speak for them when I say that for us this is not a war for or against any social system. It is a war against lying, treachery, perjury, murder—all the things which would dissolve the foundations of any social or international system whatever. Till this evil thing be destroyed, there is no hope for mankind, in any country, or continent, whatever its social order may be. And so we wish godspeed to Russia, and whatever happens in Russia, and even if the Russians were hopelessly knocked out, we British will carry on the struggle against Hitler and against Nazism. Free men and free institutions cannot co-exist in the world with Hitlerism. One or the other must die.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 30th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 24, Wednesday.	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on large supply ship off Norwegian coast. R.A.F. day fighter attack on minesweeper off Dunkirk. (No reports of night operations—bad weather).	Nil.	..
September 25, Thursday.	(No reports of day or night activity—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
September 26, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on enemy shipping off Dunkirk (two flak-ships damaged, two minesweepers afire); off Cherbourg (patrol ship sunk).	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; other targets in W. Germany; invasion bases at Calais and Dunkirk.	1 night bomber.	..
September 27, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on railway station at Amiens; railway junction near La Bassee. (No reports of night operations—bad weather.)	14 day fighters (3 pilots safe).	21 day fighters.
September 28, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on supply train (two petrol wagon afire); aircraft on ground; troops; gunposts.	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Frankfurt-am-Main**; other targets in S. W. Germany; **Genoa**; **Turin**; other targets in N. Italy. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on oil depot at **St. Nazaire**.	7 night bombers.	..
September 29, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols, including attacks on shipping off Belgian coast (patrol boat afire, barge sunk); gunpost and lorry convoy in N. France.	1 day fighter (pilot safe).	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Stettin**; **Hamburg**; invasion bases at Cherbourg and Le Havre. R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over enemy aerodromes (bomber set afire).	8 night bombers, 2 night fighters.	1 night fighter.
September 30, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attack on shipping off Cherbourg (armed merchantman afire). R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on heavily escorted convoy off Norwegian coast (largest ship hit by torpedo).	1 day fighter.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Stettin**; **Hamburg**; docks at Cherbourg. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on factory, oil depots and shipyards at Nantes; docks at St. Nazaire; aerodrome near Lorient. R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over English Channel and occupied territory, including attacks on aerodromes; convoy (large supply ship hit, smaller ship afire).	1 night bomber.	..

(*Continued on page* 17)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

3rd Oct.—Three Nazi bombers are destroyed when they make a moonlight raid on Britain.

The Royal Air Force attacks the docks at Brest as well as aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory.

4th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks Dunkirk, Rotterdam and Antwerp.

One German supply ship as well as three "flak" (anti-aircraft) ships are sunk in the Channel by the Royal Air Force.

5th Oct.—Some slight coastal activity by the enemy is reported in the East and South-west of England.

8th Oct.—Slight enemy activity is reported over South-west England and South Wales.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3rd Oct.—A successful raid by heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force is carried out on Tripoli. Benghazi is also raided and several enemy aircraft are destroyed.

4th Oct.—Benghazi is again raided heavily by the Royal Air Force.

6th Oct.—Italy admits Royal Air Force raids on Catania and Licata in Sicily.

Enemy aircraft cause little damage in a raid on the Suez Canal area.

7th Oct.—The Admiralty announces that British submarines have sunk or severely damaged 11 enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force bombs shipping in Tripoli harbour and attacks Italian aerodromes and seaplane bases.

The Fleet Air Arm attacks a protected enemy convoy and leaves two ships sinking and at least another damaged.

Patrol activities in the Tobruk and frontier areas are reported from Libya.

It is announced that the Emperor of Abyssinia will raise and maintain an army under his own command. A British Military Mission is to assist him in the organization and training of the force.

9th Oct.—Increased activity is reported on the part of British partrols at Tobruk.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

4th Oct.—The Standard Oil Company's tanker I. C. White, is torpedoed.

5th Oct.—Mr. Myron Taylor, the President's personal convoy to the Vatican, says he will impart promptly to President Roosevelt and to Mr. Cordell Hull, information of the utmost value.

7th Oct.—Mr. Cordell Hull, U. S. Secretary of State, Mr. Henry Wallace, Vice-President, five Senators and two members of the House of Representatives confer with President Roosevelt regarding the revision of the Neutrality Act.

Mr. Wendell Willkie, Republican Leader, urges the prompt repeal of the Neutrality Act.

8th Oct.—The Appropriations Committee of United States House of Representatives approves a 5,985 million dollars Lease-Lend Appropriation.

President Roosevelt, in a message to the National Convention of the American Federatin of Labour, says they cannot take chances with national safety and urges them to speed up production of weapons for the Democracies.

9th Oct.—Mr. Roosevelt, in a special message to Congress, urges revision of the Neutrality Act to permit the arming of merchant-ships. Bills are accordingly introduced in the United States Houses of Congress.

In a message to M. Stalin, Mr. Roosevelt assures him that ways will be found to provide supplies to Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

3rd Oct.—Soviet troops make successful counter-attacks in the defence of Leningrad.

4th Oct.—Marshal Budenny launches a strong counter-attack to relieve the German pressure on the Crimea.

The Germans are driven back from Murmansk.

5th Oct.—Fighting of the fiercest nature is reported all along the Russian front.

Marshal Budenny's troops advance 20 miles in 36 hours and retake 30 villages in one sector.

6th Oct.—The new German offensive hinted darkly by Hitler is reported to be in full swing from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

7th Oct.—The Germans are held up on the Isthmus of Perekop. In the Battle for Moscow developing in the Central Sector, the Russians inflict very heavy losses on the enemy, who bombs Moscow and Leningrad. The Russians drive the Germans out of dug-outs in front of the Leningrad fortifications.

Finland, replying to the British Memorandum, asserts she is purely on the defensive against Russia.

8th Oct.—The German High Command puts out characteristically extravagant claims concerning the undoubtedly fierce struggles taking place in the Battle for Moscow and the Crimea, one of them being the encirclement of several Soviet armies!

A Finnish political commentator, speaking over the Finnish radio, exclaims "Our safety lies in the downfall of the Soviet leaders."

9th Oct.—The Russians admit the (orderly) evacuation of Orel but their front is unbroken in spite of the tall claims made by Hitler in an Order of the Day to German troops that their resistance has been smashed. It is evident that bitter fighting rages along the entire front.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

4th Oct.—The creation of an Eastern and a Western Army in the Middle East is announced in Cairo.

5th Oct.—The Iraqi Cabinet is reported to have resigned.

7th Oct.—It is announced in London that Eritrea will be included in the new East African Command, which comes directly under the control of the War Office.

8th Oct.—Turky denies (1) German pressure; (2) Bulgarian pressure to allow passage through the Dardanelles of destroyers "bought" from Italy; and (3) Anglo-Soviet pressure to root out German fifth columnists in Turkey.

The Moscow radio contradicts Axis reports that the Soviet Union demands the annexation of North-West Iran to Soviet Armenia.

9th Oct.—A Turkish-German trade agreement is signed at Ankara.

General Nuri Said forms a new Cabinet in Iraq.

SHIPPING

6th Oct.—Increased ship production and fewer sinkings would mean free movement of American foreign trade cargoes within the next few months, predicts Admiral Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission.

8th Oct.—It is announced that seven former United States destroyers have been transferred to the Canadian Navy.

9th Oct.—The Admiralty announces the capture of a German U-boat by a British trawler.

THE FAR EAST

3rd Oct.—Chinese troops are pursuing the retreating Japanese army twenty miles north of Changsha. The Chinese destroy 120 lorries in an attack on one Japanese transport column. Two Generals are among the Japanese dead.

The Japanese increase greatly the number of troops in Manchuria.

A Japanese spokesman states that Japan would consider it an unfriendly act if the Netherlands East Indies continues to send war supplies to Russia.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 15)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 30th September 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 24	Nil.	1 bomber (at sea).
September 25	Nil.	..
September 26	Nil.	..
September 27	Nil.	..
September 28	Nil.	..
September 29	Nil.	..
September 30	Nil.	1 night bomber.

Mr. Fadden's Government resigns in Australia and Mr. Curtin, the Labour Leader, forms a new Government.

4th Oct.—The Japanese seize all warehouses, buildings and stores near the docks in Saigon. The Japanese claim the capture of Chengchow in Hunan Province.

5th Oct.—Strong reinforcements of Australians reach Singapore.

Heavy fighting is still going on between the Japanese and the Chinese north of Changsha. The Chinese allege that the Japanese use poison-gas.

6th Oct.—The Conference in Manila between British and United States Commanders in the Far East ends.

8th Oct.—There are indications that another Far East crisis is brewing. The Japanese army is stated to be getting restive.

The United States, Britain and the Royal Netherlands Government agree to halt all shipments of oil to Japan.

9th Oct.—The Chinese troops, in a series of brilliant offensives, re-take Ichang, the important port on the Yangtze and reach Chengchow again.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

3rd Oct.—Bombs destroy six Paris synagogues.

7th Oct.—Secret German activities along the French coast are reported as well as an order prohibiting the people from entering the so-called "forbidden zone."

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

3rd Oct.—Dr. Otokar Klapka, the former Mayor of Prague, is condemned to death by the German authorities in Bohemia-Moravia. Three Jews are sentenced to death by hanging and 110 persons are handed over to the Gestapo. Fifteen others are also sentenced to death by court-martial.

4th Oct.—Many more Czechs are executed by court-martial in Prague and Brno.

The fury of the German terror in Poland continues unabated.

5th Oct.—Dr. Otokar Klapka is executed.

7th Oct.—Ten Czechs are executed at Brno after trial by court-martial.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

6th Oct.—Two officers of the German pocket battleship *Graf Spee*, who escaped from a concentration camp in Argentina, are arrested by the Brazilian authorities while attempting to return to Germany.

8th Oct.—The official Afghan News Agency contradicts Axis rumours that Britain and the Soviet Union have addressed a note to Afghanistan regarding the Germans in that country.

9th Oct.—A *coup d'etat* is reported in Panama, whose President has left the country.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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